

**Wetland Study Council (WSC) Topics and Recommendations
per Wis. Stat. 15.347(22)(b)2**

Last Updated: 7/15/2021

Wetland Study Council Topics		Background Information	Status or Recommendation
Sec. 404 Authority	<p>Program elements that would be necessary for the department of natural resources to implement if the department assumes from the federal government the authority to administer the state’s own individual and general permit program for the discharge of dredged or fill material into the navigable waters of the state under s. 281.12(2).</p> <p><i>Required study topic per Wis Stat. 15.347(22)(b) 2</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR Assumption Presentation • DNR 1993 Assumption Study • DNR 2001 Assumption Study • DNR 404 Assumption Information • DNR Potential Alternatives to 404 Assumption • DNR Jurisdictional Determinations Presentation 	404 Assumption Statement
	<p>From discussion on Sec. 404 Authority: The council will explore alternatives to 404 assumption to improve the time it takes for USACE to determine if a wetland is subject to federal regulatory jurisdiction.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR Draft Concept for Intergovernmental Personnel Act Agreement • DNR LTE at COE Jurisdictional Determination Concept Draft 	<i>In progress</i>
Permit Related	<p>The possibility of a professional, whose wetland delineation work is assured under the department of natural resources’ wetland delineation professional assurance initiative, performing a wetland delineation confirmation under s. 23.321 on behalf of the department.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetland JD Certificate Draft 	<i>In progress</i>

	<p>Required study topic per Wis Stat. 15.347(22)(b) 9</p>		
	<p>Storm water management ponds and their potential to serve a role in wetland mitigation.</p> <p>Required study topic per Wis Stat. 15.347(22)(b) 4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storm Water and Wetlands Topic Outline Draft • Wetlands and Storm Water Policy Background 	<i>In progress</i>
	<p>Issues related to the analysis of practicable alternatives that avoid and minimize the adverse impacts of a discharge into a wetland on wetland functional values and that will not result in any other significant adverse environmental consequences.</p> <p>Required study topic per Wis Stat. 15.347(22)(b) 3</p>		<i>Future agenda item</i>
Mitigation	<p>Implementation and effectiveness of state wetland mitigation programs.</p> <p>Required study topic per Wis Stat. 15.347(22)(b) 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR Mitigation Overview Wetland Mitigation Bank Discussion Presentation 	Wetland Mitigation Program Recommendations
	<p>Ways to improve the in lieu fee subprogram of the wetland mitigation program, under s. 281.36 (3r) (e), including subcontracting the management of a program to a nonprofit organization.</p> <p>Required study topic per Wis Stat. 15.347(22)(b) 8</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR Wetland Conservation Trust Program Status 	Wetland Mitigation Program Recommendations

	<p>Methods of financing wetland mitigation requirements for local units of government.</p> <p><i>Required study topic per Wis Stat. 15.347(22)(b) 10</i></p>		<i>Future agenda item</i>
	<p>From discussion on mitigation programs, WSC is providing Technical Advisory Group Review of NR 350 rule revision.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NR 350 Statement of Scope • NR 350 Current Rule • NR 350 Draft #1 Proposed Changes • DNR NR 350 Rule Revision Presentation 	NR 350 Rule Proposal
Restoration	<p>Statewide incentive programs for creating, restoring, and enhancing wetlands.</p> <p><i>Required study topic per Wis Stat. 15.347(22)(b) 5</i></p>		<i>Future agenda item</i>
	<p>The simplification of regulations associated with creating wetlands on farm drainage ditches for the purpose of phosphorus pollution retention.</p> <p><i>Required study topic per Wis Stat. 15.347(22)(b) 7</i></p>		<i>Future agenda item</i>
Training	<p>Statewide wetland trainings for department of natural resources staff, wetland consultants, and wetland delineators.</p> <p><i>Required study topic per Wis Stat. 15.347(22)(b) 6</i></p>		<i>Future agenda item</i>

Other wetlands topics at the discretion of the council See Wis. Stat. 15.347(22)(b)11	Recommend DNR develop a fact sheet on the implications for Wisconsin of the federal rule that became effective Dec. 23, 2019 redefining "Waters of the United States" (WOTUS).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR Testimony to EPA Re WOTUS Rule 	<i>In progress</i>
	General Permit reissuance presentations	(Materials located in meeting minutes)	<i>Ongoing topic</i>